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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/750,219	01/02/2004	Douglas B. Hill	204694.00115	6659

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PATENT ADMINISTRATOR
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EXAMINER	
DHARIA, PRABODH M	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2629	

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06/13/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/750,219	HILL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Prabodh M. Dharia	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *02 January 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-43* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1--5,7,8,10-15,17-23 and 25-43* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *6,9,16 and 24* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *02 January 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *10-25-06,05-10-07*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10-25-2006, 05-10-2007 are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because total word count exceeds 150.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Response to Amendment

4. The amendments and newly added claims 38-43 filed on 03-17-2005 do not introduce any new matter into the disclosure. The added material is supported by the original disclosure.

5. **Status:** Please all the replies and correspondence should be addressed to examiner's new art unit 2629. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted on 01-02-2004 under new application, which have been placed of record in the file. Claims 1-43 are pending in this action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1,2,10-13,17,30,31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hidai (US 2006/0274067 A1).

Regarding Claim 1, Hidai discloses in a pointer tracking system (page 3, paragraph 44-46) including at least two overlapping coordinate input sub-regions defining a generally contiguous input region (page 2, paragraph 19, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17), each coordinate input sub-region generating pointer coordinate data in response to pointer movement therein (page 3, paragraphs 44,49), a method for tracking a pointer across overlapping portions of said coordinate input sub-regions (page 2, paragraph 19, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17), comprising: detecting pointer movements within overlapping portions of said coordinate input sub-regions (page 2, paragraph 19, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17),; and processing the pointer coordinate data generated by each of said coordinate input sub-regions as a result of pointer movement within said overlapping portions in accordance with defined logic to yield a single set of pointer coordinate data representing the pointer movement (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 2, Hidai discloses processing the pointer coordinate data is combined in accordance with said defined logic (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 10, Hidai discloses displaying an image generally spanning said contiguous input region, said image being updated to reflect pointer activity (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 11, Hidai discloses displaying image includes image segments, each segment being associated with a respective coordinate input sub-region (please see figures 11-14, 17, page 1, paragraphs 11,12, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 12, Hidai discloses image segments associated with adjacent coordinate input sub-regions are joined substantially seamlessly within said overlapping portions of said coordinate input sub-regions (please see figures11-14, 17, page 1, paragraphs 11,12, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 13, Hidai teaches each image section is an operating system desktop section (page 5, paragraph 71 teaches the display displays graphic images, the desktop ICON are graphic images).

Regarding Claim 17, Hidai teaches a touch system (page 3, paragraph 43) comprising: a plurality of coordinate input sub-regions (page 2, paragraph 19), said input sub- regions overlapping to define a generally contiguous input surface each coordinate input sub-region acquiring overlapping images thereof (page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17) and generating pointer coordinate data in response to pointer contacts thereon (page 3, paragraph 44), said pointer coordinate data being processed to update image data presented on said input surface (page 3, paragraph 49), , a method of detecting the position of a pointer contact relative to said touch surface comprising: acquiring overlapping images of each coordinate input sub-region; (page 3, paragraphs 44-46, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17) wherein: when a pointer contact is made on a portion of a coordinate input sub-region that does not overlap with an adjacent coordinate input sub\-region, said coordinate input sub-region processes acquired images to derive pointer data (page 5, paragraph 71, page 3, paragraph 44, figure 9,11) and triangulates the position of the pointer using the derived pointer data thereby to determine the position of the pointer contact relative to the touch surface (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 3, paragraphs 44-46); and when a pointer contact is made on a portion of a coordinate input sub-region that overlaps with an adjacent coordinate input sub-region (page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17), each overlapping coordinate input sub-region processes

acquired images to derive pointer data and triangulates the position of the pointer using the derived pointer data (page 5, paragraph 71, page 3, paragraph 44), the triangulated positions generated by the overlapping coordinate input sub-regions (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 3, paragraphs 44-46); being processed in accordance with defined logic thereby to determine the position of the pointer contact relative to the touch surface (page 3, paragraphs 44-49).

Regarding Claim 30, Hidai teaches a touch system (page 3, paragraph 43) comprising: a plurality of coordinate input sub-regions (page 2, paragraph 19), said input sub- regions overlapping to define a generally contiguous input surface each coordinate input sub-region acquiring overlapping images thereof (page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17) and generating pointer coordinate data in response to pointer contacts thereon (page 3, paragraph 44), said pointer coordinate data being processed to update image data presented on said input surface (page 3, paragraph 49), wherein: when a pointer contact is made on a portion of a coordinate input sub-region that does not overlap with an adjacent coordinate input sub\-region, said coordinate input sub-region processes acquired images to derive pointer data (page 5, paragraph 71, page 3, paragraph 44, figure 9,11) and triangulates the position of the pointer using the derived pointer data thereby to determine the position of the pointer contact relative to the touch surface (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 3, paragraphs 44-46); and when a pointer contact is made on a portion of a coordinate input sub-region that overlaps with an adjacent coordinate input sub-region (page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17), each overlapping coordinate input sub-region processes acquired images to derive pointer data and

triangulates the position of the pointer using the derived pointer data (page 5, paragraph 71, page 3, paragraph 44), the triangulated positions generated by the overlapping coordinate input sub-regions (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 3, paragraphs 44-46); being processed in accordance with defined logic thereby to determine the position of the pointer contact relative to the touch surface (page 3, paragraphs 44-49).

Regarding Claim 31, Hidai teaches coordinate input sub-regions only partially overlap (page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claim3-5, 7, 8, 14,15,18-23, 25-29 and 32-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hidai (US 2006/0274067 A1) as applied to claims 1,2,10-13,17,30,31 above, and further in view of Pryor et al. (US 2006/0202953 A1).

Regarding Claim 3, Hidai discloses logic is an averaging technique (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

However Hidai fails to disclose triangulated positions are combined using weighted averaging .

However, Pryor et al. discloses averaging technique is a weighted averaging technique weighted averaging (page 8, paragraphs 170,173).

The reason to combine is to triangle on a target, a weighted average of location and orientation information can be used to increase accuracy in image.

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate teaching of Pryor et al. in teaching of Hidai to have a display displaying an object in a touch input system using triangle on a target, a weighted average of location and orientation information can be used to increase accuracy of a sub-pixel in displaying an image.

Regarding Claim 4, Hidai discloses coordinate input sub-regions only partially overlap (page 2, paragraph 19, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17).

Regarding Claim 5, Pryor et al. discloses averaging technique is a weighted averaging technique weighted averaging (page 8, paragraphs 170,173).

Regarding Claim 7, Hidai discloses processing the pointer coordinate data is combined in accordance with said defined logic (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71). Hidai also discloses logic is an averaging technique (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Pryor et al. discloses averaging technique is a weighted averaging technique weighted averaging (page 8, paragraphs 170,173).

Regarding Claim 8, Hidai discloses coordinate input sub-region generates pointer coordinate data by: capturing overlapping images looking across the coordinate input sub-region; detecting the presence of a pointer in each of the captured images; and triangulating the detected pointers to determine (x,y)-coordinates of said pointer (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 14, Hidai discloses coordinate input sub-regions only partially overlap (page 2, paragraph 19, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17).

Pryor et al. discloses averaging technique is a weighted averaging technique weighted averaging (page 8, paragraphs 170,173).

Regarding Claim 15, Hidai discloses coordinate input sub-region generates pointer coordinate data by: capturing overlapping images looking across the coordinate input sub-region; detecting the presence of a pointer in each of the captured images; and triangulating the detected pointers to determine (x,y)-coordinates of said pointer (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 18, Pryor et al. teaches processing the triangulated positions are combined (page 8, paragraphs 166-170,173).

Regarding Claim 19, Pryor et al. teaches triangulated positions are combined using weighted averaging (page 8, paragraphs 166-170,173).

Regarding Claim 20, Hidai discloses updating the image data in accordance with the determined position of the pointer contact relative to the touch surface (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 21, Hidai teaches teaches maintaining attributes assigned to a pointer by one coordinate input sub-region after said pointer moves across an overlapping portion into an adjacent coordinate input sub-region (page 3, paragraphs 44-49).

Regarding Claim 22, Hidai teaches attributes are maintained until a pre-defined event occurs (page 3, paragraphs 43-49, figures 1-4).

Regarding Claim 23, Hidai teaches coordinate input sub-regions only partially overlap (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2 and please see figures 11-14, 17, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 25, Hidai teaches coordinate input sub-regions only partially overlap (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2 and please see figures 11-14, 17, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 26, Hidai teaches image includes image segments, each segment being associated with a respective coordinate input sub-region (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2 and please see figures 11-14, 17, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 27, Hidai teaches image segments associated with adjacent coordinate input sub-regions are joined substantially seamlessly within overlapping portions of said coordinate input sub-regions (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2 and please see figures 11-14, 17, page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17, page 3, paragraphs 44-49, page 5, paragraph 71).

Regarding Claim 28, Hidai teaches each image section is an operating system desktop section (page 5, paragraph 71 teaches the display displays graphic images, the desktop ICON are graphic images).

Regarding Claim 29, Hidai teaches maintaining attributes assigned to a pointer by one coordinate input sub-region after said pointer moves across an overlapping portion into an

adjacent coordinate input sub-region (figure 2 and please see figures 11-14, 17, page 3, paragraphs 43-49).

Regarding Claim 32, Hidai teaches when a pointer contact is made on a portion of a coordinate input sub-region that overlaps with an adjacent coordinate input sub-region the triangulated positions are combined using with image data (page 1, paragraphs 11,12, figure 2, page 3, paragraphs 44-46).

Pryor et al. discloses triangulated positions are combined using weighted averaging (page 8, paragraph 170).

Regarding Claim 33, Hidai teaches an image segment is presented on each coordinate input sub-region, said image segments being joined to create a continuous image on said input surface (page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17).

Regarding Claim 34, Hidai teaches each image section is an operating system desktop section (page 5, paragraph 71 teaches the display displays graphic images, the desktop ICON are graphic images).

Pryor et al. discloses each image section is an operating system desktop section (page 4, paragraph 96).

Regarding Claim 35, Pryor et al. discloses each coordinate input sub-region includes at least two cameras to capture overlapping images thereof (please see figure 1C, page 5, paragraph

111, page 6, paragraph 124).

Regarding Claim 36, Pryor et al. discloses each coordinate input sub-region includes four cameras (page 8, paragraphs 167-169 teaches number of cameras can be more than 1)

Regarding Claim 37, Pryor et al. discloses coordinate input sub-regions are rectangular, said cameras being positioned at the corners thereof, pairs of said cameras being responsible for acquiring overlapping images of quadrants of said coordinate input sub-regions (page 6, paragraph 124, page 8, paragraphs 167-170, teaches number of cameras can be more than 1).

Hidai teaches an image segment is presented on each coordinate input sub-region, said image segments being joined to create a continuous image on said input surface (page 6, paragraph 82, page 7, paragraph 95, figure 17).

10. Claims 38-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ditzik (US 5,771,039 A) in view of Kulas, Charles J. (US 2003/0151562 A1).

Regarding Claim 38, Ditzik teaches a touch system (Col. 4, Lines 46-59) comprising: a large-scale touch surface (Col. 4, Lines 46-59, please see figures 1-4); at least three imaging devices positioned (Col. 12, Lines 30-39) along at least one side of said touch surface at spaced locations, each of said imaging devices looking across at least a portion of said touch surface (Please see figure 4, Col. 5, Lines 36-46 shows having four sectional display).

However, Ditzik fails to disclose fields of view of said imaging devices overlapping in a manner so that each location on the touch surface falls within the fields of view of at least two imaging devices; and processing structure communicating with said imaging devices, said processing structure processing image data generated by selected imaging devices capturing images of a pointer contacting said touch surface to calculate the position of the pointer contact using triangulation.

However, Kulas discloses fields of view of said imaging devices overlapping (page 2, paragraph 25, page 4, paragraph 49, page 1, paragraph 3) in a manner so that each location on the touch surface falls within the fields of view of at least two imaging devices (page 5, claims 1,2); and processing structure communicating with said imaging devices, said processing structure processing image data generated by selected imaging devices capturing images of a pointer contacting said touch surface to calculate the position of the pointer contact using triangulation (pages 2,3, paragraphs 31-37).

The reason to combine is to be able to have multi-panel large display such that each panel is flexible enough to position as per viewer or presenter's choice.

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate teaching of Kulas in teaching of Ditzik to have a user friendly touch input display system displaying an object in a touch input system using triangular calculation and display the image per viewer or presenter's choice.

Regarding Claim 39, Kulas discloses processing structure selects imaging devices based on proximity of the pointer to said imaging devices. (pages 2,3, paragraphs 31-37).

Regarding Claim 40, Kulas discloses the fields of view of said imaging devices overlap in a manner so that many locations on the touch surface fall within the fields of view of at least three imaging devices (page 2, paragraph 25, page 4, paragraph 49, page1, paragraph 3).

Regarding Claim 41, Kulas discloses processing structure averages triangulation results when the pointer contact is within the fields of view of at least three imaging devices (pages 2, 3, paragraphs 31-37).

Regarding Claim 42, Ditzik discloses imaging devices are laterally spaced along one said touch surface (Please see figure 4, Col. 5, Lines 36-46 shows having four sectional display and all of them are aligned together on glass surface).

Regarding Claim 43, Ditzik discloses imaging devices are disposed above the plane of said touch surface (Please see figure 4, Col. 5, Lines 36-46 shows having four sectional display and all of them are aligned together on glass surface, Col. 4, Lines 46-59, please see figures 1-4, Col. 12, Lines 30-39).

Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claims 6,9,16 and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

12. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of Hidai (US 2006/0274067 A1) in view of Pryor et al. (US 2006/0202953 A1) and Ditzik (US 5,771,039 A) in view of Kulas, Charles J. (US 2003/0151562 A1) and all the cited prior art on 892's and PTO 1449's fails to recite or disclose the uniquely distinct features represented by underlined bold claim limitations below;

In a pointer tracking system including at least two overlapping coordinate input sub-regions defining a generally contiguous input region, each coordinate input sub-region generating pointer coordinate data in response to pointer movement therein, a method for tracking a pointer across overlapping portions of said coordinate input sub-regions comprising: detecting pointer movements within overlapping portions of said coordinate input sub-regions; and processing the pointer coordinate data generated by each of said coordinate input sub-regions as a result of pointer movement within said overlapping portions in accordance with defined logic to yield a single set of pointer coordinate data representing the pointer movement and **pointer coordinate data includes a series of pointer (x,y)-coordinates and wherein the pointer coordinate data is combined according to the equation: y-coordinate=(100-P %)*y-coordinate of CIR.sub.x+P %*y-coordinate of CIR.sub.x+1 where: CIR.sub.x is one coordinate input sub-region; CIR.sub.x+1 is another coordinate input sub-region; and P % is the distance travelled through the overlapping portions in an x-direction expressed as a percentage when travelling in a direction from coordinate input sub-region CIR.sub.x to coordinate input sub-region CIR.sub.**

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Morrison; Gerald et al. (US 2007/0075982 A1) Passive Touch System And Method Of Detecting User Input.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh M. Dharia whose telephone number is 571-272-7668. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM to 5PM.

15. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

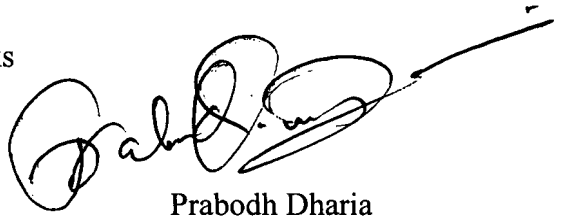
16. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231



Prabodh Dharia

Partial Signatory Authority

AU2629

May 21, 2007